

ALASKAN TOKEN COLLECTOR

ALASKA RARE COINS, P.O. BOX 72832, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99707 Phone 907 452-6461 email: alaskararecoins@gmail.com

& POLAR NUMISMATIST

VOLUME XLIX, NO. 7, AUGUST, 2023.



See page 90

KAYE DETHRIDGE 90th BIRTHDAY BASH!!

Jan and I were persuaded to jump on a jet and fly down to Sitka for Kaye Dethridge's 90th birthday. We left Fairbanks on May 29th at 6AM on flight to Anchorage, and then changed planes for Sitka. The flight to Sitka stopped at Juneau. Even with this stop, we were in Sitka by 11AM. That plane continued on to Ketchikan and then to Seattle. It was one of Alaska Airlines' "milk runs."

Mike Schmetzer, our Southeast Alaska correspondent, picked us up at the airport and gave us a quick tour of the city. We picked up lunch at the Sea Mart grocery store, and then checked into our trailer at Camp Starlight. Camp Starlight has two travel trailers, permanently parked. This small travel trailer would be our home for the next five days. This was the most affordable lodging available in Sitka. It is right across from the cruise ship dock! And it was conveniently located only a block from Mike's house.

That afternoon we visited Kaye and Irene. Kaye took Mike and I down to his "man cave" where all token talk would take place. Jan stayed upstairs with Irene and made an interesting discovery (more on that later).

Years ago, Kaye purchased a hoard of what we charitably call "mint sports" of Alaska tokens. Some one had acquired original dies for Alaska tokens, and proceeded to manufacture objects that looked like tokens. Some of these dies were for very rare Alaska tokens. The good news is that they were paired with unlikely denomination dies. Fish packing company dies were paired with "good for one drink," etc. The blanks upon which these mint sports were struck were usually thinner than the original tokens and/or odd shapes that were not used by the original manufacturer. Most were weakly struck, indicating that the minter did not have a press and were struck by hand.

One token caught my eye. It was a White Horse Confectionery token, about 25mm, larger than the 21mm, 5¢ token that I have. This is not listed in Benice's "Alaska & Yukon Tokens." Finding this token in a hoard of Alaska mint sports indicates that it was made by the same maker as many Alaska tokens. In my mind, this gives credence to it being from Whitehorse, Yukon.

But the question now is what to do with them. Kaye and Irene want to mark these tokens in some way so that they could not be used to deceive. Mike Schmetzer ordered a counterstamp to mark the tokens: K & I / FANTASY. The better tokens (those that are from rare issuers in their original form) will be countermarked so that no one will be fooled.

For the remaining tokens, they hatched a plan to dispose of them in Sitka Sound in 400+ feet of water. Joining the mint sports will be a hoard of Tony's Recreation from Barrow. Tony's tokens are from the 50s, and much thinner than the older Alaska tokens. And bright and shiny aluminum. We are waiting for the day when a halibut is caught, and one of the tokens is found in its stomach. It will



Dick (holding a box of dies) and Kaye

continued on page 89

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

As you can see, this has been a rather eventful summer so far. There was our trip to Sitka detailed in this issue. And then next week, we are off to Anchorage for Antiques Roadshow.

It was really great visiting with Kaye and Irene. Kaye is well known to Alaska token collectors. He has 20 years on me. He had the opportunity to "get in on the ground floor" for discovering unknown Alaska tokens. Researching was really tough. I got in on the tail end of "discovering," but have the tremendous advantage in researching, thanks to the LoC.

Well known numismatist Robert Leonard was in town, playing the tourist. Bob wrote an article for us on Fake Western (and Dawson) gold bars (July, 2015). Bob also wrote the book "Curious Currency," about primitive, odd and curious money.

eBay was interesting this month. An unlisted token from Bering City sold for a surprisingly low \$391. Was this a great buy, or was the attribution wishful thinking? We will discuss this next month. Katalla Northern (B-5a) did well bringing \$338. Several Yukon tokens were offered, but most not selling. Opening bids were Canadian \$2,000 and \$500.

While preparing this issue, my yearly master file was corrupted. Fortunately, I print everything as I go. I just had to re-type and re-insert the photos. I only lost my very last changes, which I know contained some pithy comments

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Editor - Dick Hanscom

Associate Editor - Jerry Cleworth

Anchorage Correspondent - J.D. Williams

Southeast Alaska Correspondent - Mike Schmetzer

Dawson Correspondent - Vic Tubman

Yukon Correspondent - Jim Robb

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PRICES REALIZED

Selected prices realized from eBay:



Bering City , Bering City Pool Hall, 5¢, B-unl	391.00
Bethel , Bethel Native Store, FST set of 5	OB197.50NB
Fairbanks/Eielson , AK Coachways, B-T1a	30.00OB
Juneau , CC Club, TLG, black poker chip	8.65
Katalla , The Northern, no denom., B-5a	338.00
Ketchikan , White Cab, 1 Fare, B-T6a	11.06
Kotzebue , Rotman Stores, FST set of 5	88.00
Kwethluk , Kwethluk Native Store, FST set of 5	202.50
Murphy Dome , NCO OM, 25¢, B-3d	5.50
Nulato , Sommer General Store, FST set of 5	OB197.50NB
Palmer , ARRC, 10¢, B-1c	34.00
Palmer , ARRC, 25¢, B-1d, NGC-61	199.99OB
Tuntutuliak , Miller's Store, FST set of 5	OB199.99NB
Dawson, YT , J.B., no denom., B-2a	OB1,516.42NB
Dawson , Dewey & Jenson, 12½¢, B-10a	OB378.37NB
Dawson , G (Gandolfo), 12½¢, B-12a	OB1,513.49NB
Dawson, YT , Red Feather Saloon, B-20a	379.10OB
(Everett, WA) , Doc's, The Yukon, 25¢	12.50

OB = Opening Bid; NB = No Bid; RL = relist; R = Reserve; RNM = Reserve Not Met; W = withdrawn BIN = Buy it now; BOA = Best Offer Accepted; DNS = Did Not Sell; SUP = sold, unknown price. FTR = see For the Record.

CHICKEN B-1a

Chitina Leader, October 8, 1910.

Mr. Henry Struck, of the firm of Struck and Van Hook, of Chicken creek, passed through Chitina this week en route to his interior home after a visit to the outside. Mr. Struck's journey carries him from Chitina over the new government trail to Tanana crossing, and thence by Kechemstock flats to the head of the Mosquito Fork mining district, on the Forty Mile and on to his home at Chicken creek.

Chitina Leader, July 1, 1901.

Henry Struck, the well known old timer, returned from prospecting in the vicinity of the upper Tonsina.

It seems the firm of Struck and Van Hook was wrapped up by 1901 and Henry was back to mining.

Continued on page 94

KAYE DETHRIDGE BIRTHDAY BASH, CONT.

be such a mystery (to all but those who read this newsletter).

Before leaving, Kaye went into his inner sanctum and came out with a box. He gifted me several dies! You know me. I will have to play with them in my Mincer Mint. These are some very neat dies. See page 95.

He also gifted me a brown paper wrapped block of "Script Books." See page 97.

While we were talking tokens, Jan was talking with Irene. We have tickets for Antiques Roadshow when it comes to Anchorage in July. Jan showed Irene a photo of a pyrographic moosehide that we are taking. We purchased it from Candy Waugaman at one of her Charity Garage Sales before she passed. Irene looked at the photo and said, "We sold that to Candy." Alaska really is a small state.

After we left Kaye and Irene, we dropped Mike off, took his truck and headed downtown. I made the rounds of the bars to pick up bar tokens. One must have their priorities. We parked near the Alaska Native Brotherhood Camp #1 building.



The first stop was the Pioneer Bar (locally known as the "P" Bar). I picked up three sets of eight different drink tokens. I was blown away by the cost of the tokens. How can anyone afford to go into a bar and drink?

The next stop was Ernie's. The tokens were even more expensive! I purchased only two sets.



Tokens from these bars can be found on pages 98 and 99.

We continued walking around and went up Castle Hill for a great view of Sitka Sound. We wandered around a little bit more, called it a day and returned to our trailer.

On Tuesday, we drove to the back entrance of Sitka National Historic Park and walked to the Park headquarters. From there we walked the trails with totems and looped back to the headquarters.

From the Park headquarters, it was just a short walk to Sheldon Jackson Museum. This small museum is packed with native, anthropological, historic and commercial artifacts. You can walk through in a matter of minutes, or spend hours looking at the exhibits and exploring drawers with even more items. Of particular interest were the native carved/engraved spoons and other silver.

The walk back into town on Lincoln Street (there is also a Jeff Davis Street, but not named for that Jefferson Davis) along the small boat harbors took only a few minutes.

We stopped at the Sitka Historical Museum in Harrigan Centennial Hall. Exhibits ranged from pre-Russian days to Russian settlement and transfer, transition and World War II.

Leaving the Museum, we now had time to explore downtown more thoroughly.



The cultural high point (although lower in elevation than Castle Hill) in downtown Sitka is the Russian Orthodox Church. Being of Anglo-Russo-Ukrainian decent, and having attended a couple of midnight Easter services (under protest) walking around the St. Nicholas R.O. Church in Salem, Mass., this was sort of a flashback. It is typically Russian Orthodox: ornate inside with lots of gilding and icons, with the recognizable "onion dome" outside.

KAYE DETHRIDGE BIRTHDAY BASH, CONT.

That evening we had dinner with Mike, Jennie and Emily. Isabella was dog sitting. Sitka is not dog friendly. Boarding is not available, and we were advised to not bring Jan's 8 pound mini-poodle.

On Wednesday we had a personal tour of the Alaska Raptor Center, conducted by Isabella, Mike Schmetzer's daughter. Long time subscribers will remember silver tokens we struck at the Fairbanks Coin Club meeting August 2015 (September 2015, page 69), for Schmetlandia, in the design of a British long cross penny.



The Raptor Center rehabilitates birds that can be released and houses permanent residents that cannot be released back into the wild. The resident raven is no longer housed outside, as he was trading the meat that his carers provided, with wild ravens, for french fries.

After the Raptor Center we visited the Fortress of the Bear. Black and brown bears are featured, and viewed from above. They are housed in two large concrete containers (tanks) that were used by Alaska Pulp Co.

We then drove to the end of Sawmill Creek Road to "Old Sitka," site of a bloody battle between the Tlingit and Russians in 1802.

We drove back to town and visited the Russian Bishop's House built in 1843. This was the residence of the head of the Russian Orthodox Church in Alaska. It is maintained by the National Park Service.



By now it was time to head to Kaye's and Irene's for the Birthday Bash. While Kaye's birthday is June 1, they celebrated it on May 31 because Kaye and Irene, and son Mike and his wife Sandy Butler were leaving on a cruise on June 2 and wanted a day to get ready for it.

It was a small gathering of about 15-20 local friends and family, including their neighbors François and Dr. Kimberly Bakkes. François is a pilot with UPS and will

appear later in this narrative.

Irene and friends put on a spread to keep everyone happy, even vegetarians! Irene prepared a barbecued brisket that was to die for. It would be worth another trip to Sitka just for that.

What do you give an Alaskan token collector who owns or has owned nearly every significant Alaska token for his 90th birthday? Every great numismatist has been honored with a medal. Kaye was co-author of "Alaska's Coinage Though the Years" in 1965 with Maurice Gould and Kenneth Bressett. Both of these gentlemen have been honored with a medal.



So, a custom minted, hand crafted silver medal with a less than accurate bust on one side seemed appropriate. And make enough so that he can hand them out as party favors. The die with the portrait was originally used to make the 25¢ R.J. Negus tokens from Scammon Bay/St. Michael. These are made from pure silver and weigh about 1/3 of an ounce.

On Thursday we drove out Sawmill Creek Road and went for a hike. We had to avoid stepping slugs. Come to find out we should have been stomping on them as they are an invasive species. I suggested to Mike that they should be gathered up and they could have slug races in the bars.

We went back downtown to see what we might have missed.



We went into a gift shop in the Pioneer's Home. The statue in front of the Home is featured on the Alaska Purchase Centennial medal made by the Philadelphia Mint.

And I had missed an elongated rolling machine on the sidewalk in front of a store on Lincoln St. There were

KAYE DETHRIDGE BIRTHDAY BASH, CONT.

four different dies - whale, eagle, Mt. Edgecombe and the Russian Church.

We stopped by to say good bye to Kaye and Irene and to thank them for their hospitality. I told Kaye we would be back in 10 years for his 100th birthday.



The clearest view we had of Mt. Edgecombe

We met Mike about 4PM and it was time for a boat ride through the Sound and around the islands. The weather was nice (cloudy but not raining) and the scenery very different from interior Alaska.

On Friday we went to the Sitka Sound Science Center and Aquarium. It is also a fish hatchery. This was once part of Sheldon Jackson College (closed in 2007).

Sitka does tourism right. The publication "All About Sitka" gives Sitka's population as about 8,000. It provides a roster of cruise ships with capacity, and a calendar showing which ships will be in port on any given day. The largest have a 4,600 capacity. It is not unusual for cruise ships to disgorge more passengers than the total population of Sitka. Up to four cruise ships come to Sitka in one day, some docking at the cruise ship dock, others anchored in Sitka Sound and being lightered ashore.

When the town is inundated with tourists, they will close Lincoln Street where most shops and attractions are, for the safety of the tourists and the mental health of local drivers.

The weather was...acceptable...during our stay. There was approximately a three hour stretch of continuous sunshine one afternoon. The rest of the time it was cloudy and sometimes raining. But the rain was not enough to stop any activity. We did not see (or hear) a down pour.

Kaye and Irene, Mike and Sandy left on their cruise on Friday, June 2. It was on a small ship, not one of the huge cruise ships.

On Monday, we heard of a small cruise ship having an

engine fire in Glacier Bay. All passengers and some crew were evacuated safely to a Princess cruise ship. Some crew remained on board to bring the ship to port. Mike Schmetzer tried to get in contact with Irene, but no luck.

I finally heard from Irene, and they were not on that cruise ship. But their trip was not without incident. From Irene's email:

We left Sitka on Chichagof Dream cruise of Southeast Alaska on Friday, June 2. Monday I had sniffles and stuffy head and extreme fatigue. Tuesday the symptoms worsened so decided to test for Covid. Positive test. Kaye tested negative. I decided to isolate in our stateroom. Kaye stayed with me for most of the rest of the cruise. At this point we were at Colt Island, near Juneau, for the day. I texted Dr. Bakkes, my personal physician and next-door neighbor in Sitka for advice. She responded that I needed treatment. I let her know we wouldn't be in Juneau for several days. She responded that I should ask our captain for our exact location and François would fly the medications to us. I talked to the Captain and got the info. François called while I was talking to the Captain, so spoke to him also and got exact location and weather conditions. About an hour and half later, everyone on the ship was hugely impressed to see François in his Cessna 185 floatplane circle the ship and land on the water near us. The Captain sent out a boat and François passed the medications, and two bottles of wine, to the boat crew. Passengers and crew lined the rails and watched and cheered as François made a graceful departure. We have the absolute best and dearest neighbors.



Some pilots will use any excuse to go flying ;) Where but Alaska would this happen?

Kaye tested positive after arriving home. Both Kaye and Irene are recovering.

HANS ANDERSEN

Anderson or Andersen? The token says Andersen. Benice lists it as Anderson. News accounts in the LoC have both Andersen and Anderson.



There is a good article in the March 2018 issue of this newsletter by Robert DeArmond. I would suggest reading that in conjunction with this. Mr. DeArmond's article covers much of the same information, with more family detail. Our recapping of the news items adds a little meat to the bones of the story of Hans Andersen. Sadly, there is no Sitka paper on the LoC, so we rely on other Southeast Alaska newspapers.

And just how many Hans Andersens were there in Alaska from 1900 to 1940? I am guessing at least four. The LoC finds them in Seward, Valdez, Nome and Southeast Alaska newspapers. And it appears at least two of them were in Sitka at the same time. I will do my best to pick out the Hans Anderson of the Sitka B-3 tokens. And throw in Hans Andersen!

The spelling will be as it appears in the newspapers.

Our Hans Andersen seems to start out in Ketchikan, but not on auspicious note.

Daily Morning Alaskan, Skagway, Mar. 18, 1903
COURT Is Now In Session Down at Ketchikan
Court at Ketchikan opened Monday the 9th last in Red Men's hall. Twenty grand jurors were sworn.

In the gambling case, a fine of \$25 for dealers and \$50 for proprietors was given with one exception, Hans Anderson received a \$100 fine.

But Hans did not go straight :(

Douglas Island News, November 7, 1906.
The gamblers at Ketchikan, indicted by the federal grand jury, pleaded guilty and threw themselves on the mercy of the court...Then came the regulars, to whom the little doses administered in the following order...Hans Anderson, \$1,200...One of the defen-

dants asked the Judge the question, "has a man the right to run his slot machines?" To this the Judge replied, "I should say not."

Ketchikan Mining News, January 25, 1907.

Hans Anderson, returned from the states on the Jefferson, and proceeded immediately, if not sooner to Hadley, where, by permission of the authorities who rule over that place, as well as the rest of Alaska, he will re-inaugurate the refreshment parlor of his otherwise excellent hostelry, the addition of which last he will place in the course of completion. He also contemplates making some material improvements to his business places in Ketchikan.

Hadley is an abandoned mining town on Prince of Wales Island. There was a smelter serving the local mines, predominantly copper.

Ketchikan Mining News, February 8, 1907.

James Fleming, a well known resident of Ketchikan, and who was in the employ of Hans Andersen, proprietor of the Ketchikan Club, died, after a brief illness.

Ketchikan Mining News, March 1, 1907.

Hans Anderson's ruddy face and portly figure has been prominent on our streets this week. Hans has been so busy over at Hadley since he reopened his place of business there about a month ago that he has been kept close at home all that time.



Hotel Hadley

HANS ANDERSEN, Cont.

Ketchikan Miner, Sept. 14, 1907.

The genial, jolly host of the Hotel Hadley, came over from that place yesterday, and has been kept busy ever since, shaking the digits of his numerous friends in Ketchikan. His name is Hans Andersen, and every biped in this neck of the woods knows him.

Ketchikan Miner, November 21, 1908.

The Onward sailed early this morning for Hadley, taking freight and passengers, among the latter Hans Andersen, the jolly host of the Hadley hostelry.

Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, August 15, 1913.

Hans Anderson of Ketchikan has taken an option on the Old Bananof Barroom from Robert Witz, and expects to close the deal and take charge about the first of September.

Alaska Daily Empire, Juneau, September 11, 1913.

Hans Anderson, a prominent Ketchikan businessman has arrived in Juneau on the Humbolt this morning and is looking the town over for a suitable investment.



Ketchikan Miner, September 26, 1913.

BUYS SITKA SALOON

It is reported around town today that Hans Andersen has purchased the Baronoff Sample Rooms at Sitka, Robert Witz' old place. This saloon is well known and Hans will no doubt do a good business there. There is a bowling alley in connection with the sample rooms.

Ketchikan Miner, May 22, 1914.

WELL KNOWN ATTORNEY HERE

Maurice D. Leehey, the well-known mining attorney of Seattle, is a local visitor, registered at the Revilla. He is north on business connected with the smelter at Hadley part of which Hans Anderson claims as mineral claim. Mr. Leehey with his witnesses in the case will go over to Hadley tomorrow.

Douglas Island News, September 16, 1914.

Hans Anderson of Sitka, has bought Ed Armstrong's interest in the Northern saloon.

Douglas Island News, October 28, 1914.

Hans Anderson, of the Northern, has moved his household goods over from Sitka and will occupy the new Duram cottage in Douglas.

The Gleam, Juneau, December 17, 1916.

QUALITY GROCERY CHANGES HANDS

On the morning of December 5th, the popular Quality Grocery passed from the possession of Captain Randle to Hans Andersen. Mr. Andersen recently arrived in Juneau with his family and hopes to remain here permanently. Mr. Andersen is not a stranger to the community as he lived here in the latter eighties and early nineties and is known to many old timers. The QUALITY will be run on its usual basis of pure food and prompt service while the Heavenly Twins H.H. Morton and Stacy Reeves will continue as clerks under the new management of the Andersen Grocery Company.

Alaskan Daily Empire, Juneau, August 5, 1918.

HANS ANDERSEN IS LEAVING FOR TOWN OF SITKA

Will Concentrate His Business There and the Family Will Leave on the Spokane.

All of the stock and fixtures of the Quality Grocery Store will be moved to Sitka by Hans Andersen and consolidated with his store at that place. Mr. and Mrs. Andersen and their son Neill, and daughter Ruth, will leave on the Spokane first making a short visit for a short rest at Dr. Goddard's hot springs resort...

Mrs. Andersen says that business was never better at Ketchikan. Her husband was in business there a number of years and acquired some property. One piece has raised in value to \$10,000 and another piece has also doubled in value.

Alaska Daily Empire, April 2, 1919.

SHOUP LOSES FIGHT IN SITKA ELECTION

Sitka, April 2 - Dr. Wallace E. Patterson defeated A.G. Shoup for Mayor of Sitka by 20 votes in the most exciting municipal contest ever conducted in this city. The total votes cast here was 196, and the results were as follows:

HANS ANDERSEN, Cont.

Dr. Wallace E. Patterson 106, Dr. James W. Johnson 101, J.P. McNulty 97, J.T. Cunliff 90; Hans Andersen 86, A.G. Shoup 86. The first three named were elected.

Research shows Shoup was mayor of Sitka at some time, and I am guessing he was the incumbent in this election, so that is why he gets the headline. He must not have been very popular, finishing last, tied with a moonshiner - read on.

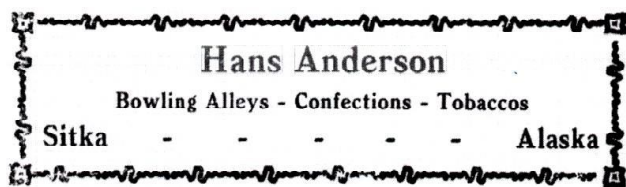
Alaska Daily Empire, January 7, 1922.

Hans Anderson was arrested charged with manufacturing "moonshine" and was arraigned today on three counts with violation of the prohibition laws.

Alaska Daily Empire, January 9, 1922.

Two more convictions growing out of Sitka raids were reported today to U.S. Attorney A.G. Shoup by H.D. Stabler, who is representing the District Attorney's office in the prosecutions at that place. Other trials, it is said, are still to follow.

Hans Anderson, who was arrested last week and held on \$2,500 bail charged with violation of the prohibition laws, was fined on two counts a total of \$1,500. No jail sentence is imposed on him, it was said, on account of evidence he gave in other trials, for the government.



Alaska Fisherman, Juneau, January 15, 1932.

Daily Alaska Empire, May 1, 1933.

FEDERAL BEER LICENCES GRANTED BY U.S. MARSHAL

United States Marshal Albert White has granted beer licences to Lucile Wilson, Piggly Wiggly Store, both of Juneau; J.L. Lucier, Craig; Hans Anderson, Sitka; Steve Kane, Hoonah and Hirst-Chichagof Mining Company of Kimsham Cove.

Daily Alaska Empire, October 12, 1933.

HANS ANDERSON DIES

Hans Anderson, former Ketchikan and Sitka resident, died in Seattle last week. He had been ill for nearly a year. He is survived by a daughter Ruth, and son, Neil.

ROBERT WITZ



The only other mention of Robert Witz in the LoC is a Notice to Creditors, "in the matter of the Estate of Robert Witz, deceased." (January, 1916).

Mrs. Witz's obituary gives a little more information.

Daily Alaska Empire, January 20, 1930.

Mrs. R Witz, wife of R. Witz, who formerly operated a brewery in Douglas, died January 13 in Sitka after a short illness due to cancer, according to advices received here today. Mr. and Mrs. Witz went to Douglas in the early days after disposing of their interest there, moved to Sitka.

CHICKEN, B-1a

Cordova Daily Times, December 18, 1920.

Harvey Van Hook, noted musher and hunter of Lost Chicken creek, started for his home today. He expects to make good time with fine dogs, as the trail along the shore is now in excellent shape for travel.

Daily Alaska Empire, Juneau, August 25, 1936.

Van Hook, who has been placer mining in the district the past thirty-five years, and who says he has always made better than a comfortable living, relates how one big dredge is taking between \$1,500 and \$2,000 a day out of the river bed. Van Hook says that he himself has taken \$300,000 out of the district since 1901, although that doesn't represent profit by all means.



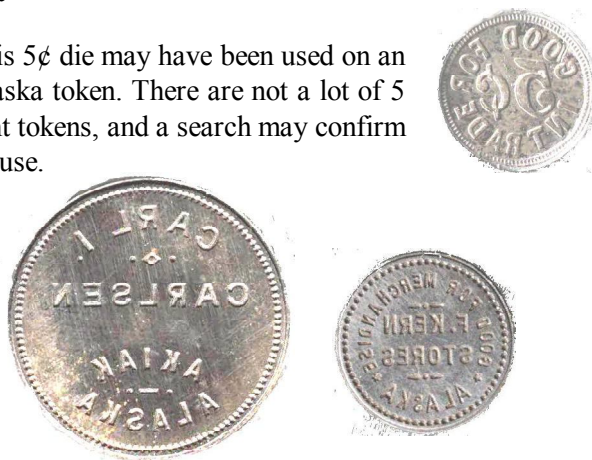
A GIFT FROM KAYE TO ME - DIES



As mentioned on page 89, Kaye gave me several dies, and I present them here.

As best as I can remember, none of the dies above were used on Alaska tokens. The Arctic Club was probably in Seattle.

This 5¢ die may have been used on an Alaska token. There are not a lot of 5 cent tokens, and a search may confirm its use.



Carl Carlsen tokens from Akiak and Kern Stores from Andreafsky are tough tokens. The Carlsen die was for the \$1 (B-1b) and the Kern die was for the 25¢ (B-1a).

Alaska Consolidated Fisheries tokens are represented in the "mint sports," the dies having been misused. I have an example of a token from a smaller die (10¢, B-1a), but with a "Good For One Drink" and on an hexagonal copper planchet! The die shown was for the 25¢ token (B-1b).



Finally, the coolest die - the pictorial for the Valdez native copper tokens.

I have other dies that I have used to make silver and gold tokens/medals. If I could work with copper, I would make a \$1 trade token for Alaska Rare Coins. Perhaps that is a project I will pursue! I should ask Kaye if he has any \$5 or \$10 dies...I could do those in silver.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Russian Orthodox Church in Sitka is an historic landmark. It is featured on many tokens and medals from Sitka.

This die would make a medal 3½ inches in diameter. It was originally used to make souvenir ashtrays. I should have asked Kaye and Irene if they had seen such an ashtray!

This die is one of several that we have. We have had medals made from other dies: On the White Pass & Yukon Railroad; White Horse Rapids; harbor scene of Skagway; and Alaskan Express (dog team). We also have harbor scenes of Wrangell and Petersburg, and Taku Glacier Near Juneau. Sadly, the only company that we know of that could make a medal this large was Medallie Art Co. back in the early 80s. We don't know of any mint that could do this now.



FRANK ALSTROM - KWIGUK AND ALAKANUK

*4/9/66 - 8/15 ALSTROM
\$5.50 Shipped*

FRANK T. ALSTROM

Yukon Smoked Salmon Strips - King Salmon - Silver Salmon - Dog Salmon

LOWER YUKON RIVER
ALAKANUK, ALASKA 99554
April 20, 1965

Mr. H. C. Keene, Jr.
U.S. C. G. Base
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Dear Mr. Keene, Jr.

Thank-you for order and check which I received on yesterdays' mail. The Kwiguk Trade-tokens were used from 1936 to 1950, and the Kwiguk Paper disc trade-tokens were used during World War II, when metal was hard to get, and the Alakanuk Trade-tokens were used from 1950 to 1952. None of these trade-tokens are in use now. Cash has taken place. I do not know of other trade tokens. There use to be N.C.Co. trade-tokens, but I understand these were all destroyed when they were collected back.

I am very sorry that I cannot do better on the kwiguk trade-tokens, as they are all pretty well worn out from handling, and all the .25¢, .50¢ and \$1.00 dollar pieces are badly defaced and worn out.

Thank-you again for your order.

Frank T. Alstrom

INVOICE

No. TRS-3

Sold to:

H.C. Keene, Jr.
U.S.C.G. Base
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

Frank T. Alstrom
Lower Yukon River
Alakanuk, Alaska 99554
April 20, 1965

Your letter: 4/4/65

Qty:	Description	Price	Total
2- Sets	6-pc. Alakanuk Trade-Tokens	@ 12.50 set	\$ 25.00
2- "	5-pc. Kwiguk " "	@ 5.00 set	\$ 10.00
	Total:-		\$ 35.00

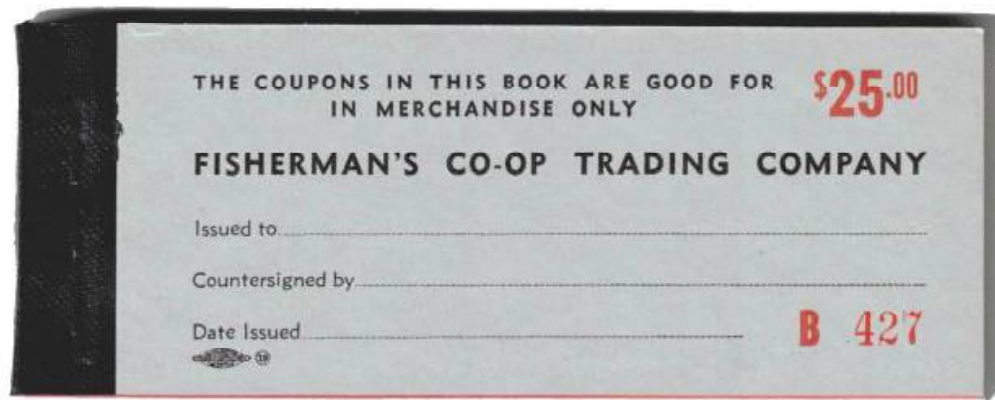
Received payment in full by check

Frank T. Alstrom
Frank T. Alstrom

Here is a neat letter and invoice from Frank Alstrom to Henry C. Keene, a well known token collector. The letter gives the dates of use of the Kwiguk and Alakanuk tokens, noting that the "paper disc" (red fiber) tokens were used during World War II. He apologizes for the condition of the Kwiguk tokens and he states that the low denomination Kwiguk tokens "are badly defaced and worn out." The invoice dated April 20, 1965, shows what Mr. Keene paid for the tokens.

submitted by Kaye Dethridge

A GIFT FROM KAYE TO ME TO YOU!



If I am given a gift, I can't sell it. That's just me. But I can re-gift it! Kaye handed me a brown wrapped package with a label from The Deers Press in Seattle. Inside this wrapped package were 32 - \$25 coupon books from the Fisherman's Co-op Trading Company in Dillingham (B-3f, catalogue value \$50).

I am giving these away. Well almost. It costs something to ship them. So, a limit of one per subscriber (if you receive this newsletter, you are a subscriber), only 96 available (Kaye sent me two more packages). These are \$2 each. You can include this when you order other items from this newsletter, or you can order just the booklet.

I know the numbers. If I see these popping up on eBay, a pox upon you.

A thank you note to Kaye would be nice, as well as a belated happy 90th birthday: P.O. Box 438, Sitka, AK 99835

TOKENS & MEDALS FOR SALE

SITKA



Alaska Coastal Airways, First Airmail Flight
1966. Silverclad and Franklin Bronze, **20.00**



Ernie's Bar, set of 5, all with gold printing.
On thick plastic: Mixed Drink, black;
Top Shelf, yellow; Premium Drink, green.
On thinner plastic: Bottle Beer, red; No
drink shown, bifacial, white. **75.00**



Alaska Native Brotherhood, 50th Anniv.
1912-1962, bronze **12.00**



Elks, Sitka Lodge 1662, 25th Elks Conven.
1943, 40mm, aluminum **10.00**



Elks, Alaska's First Capital, Drink Token,
Bronze, 39mm **12.00**



American Legion, Sitka Post 13, good for
one drink, brass, 33mm **8.00**



American Legion, Sitka Post 13, poker
chip, gold on blue, 40mm **12.00**



Elks, 50th Anniversary (1994), nickel alloy **10.00**



MOST TOKENS ARE ONE ONLY IN STOCK. PRICES ARE PLUS SHIPPING. WE WILL SHIP ON APPROVAL. YOU CAN PAY UPON RECEIPT AND ADD THE ACTUAL POSTAGE.

TOKENS & MEDALS FOR SALE



Moose, Lodge 1350, Legion of Moose No. 72. 40mm aluminum.

10.00

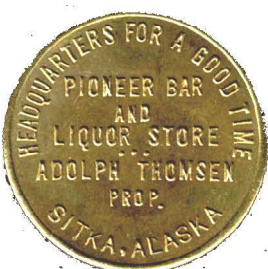


St. Michael's Cathedral, 1794-1969, 175 Years of Religious Progress in Alaska.

38mm, .999 silver
As above, bronze

25.00

8.00



Pioneer Bar and Liquor Store, \$1 in trade, B-1a

12.00



Victoria's Pour House, Good for one drink, green plastic, 40mm

12.00



Pioneer Bar, Rain Check, set of 7, all gold printing on thick plastic: yellow, orange, red, black, white, blue and green.

75.00

As above, white only

12.00

As above, blue only

12.00



Sitka Trade Dollar, 1963, sterling

25.00

As above, copper-nickel

3.00



Sheldon Jackson College, 1978, 100 years of Christian Education, bronze, 39mm

12.00



Alaska Purchase Centennial, 1967-P,

Minted at the Philadelphia Mint featuring the statue in front of the Pioneers Home in Sitka. Silver.

25.00

As above, bronze

8.00

TOKENS & MEDALS FOR SALE



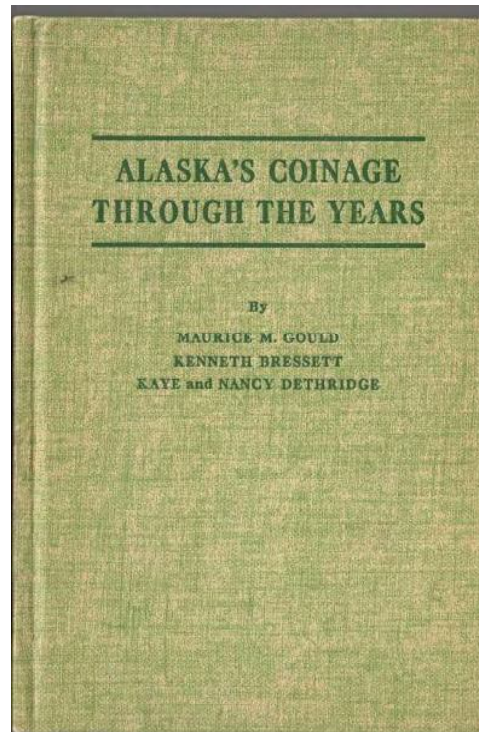
Elongated Cents: 4 varieties, one set only **8.00**



Kaye Dethridge, 90th Birthday medal,
about 1/3 oz. silver, **20.00**



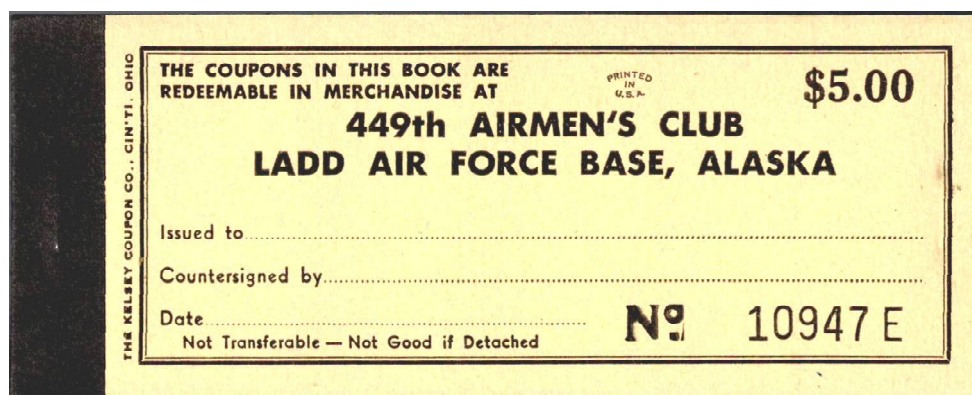
Baranof Bus, Good for One Fare, B-T3a **12.00**



Alaska's Coinage Through the Years, by
Gould, Bressett and Dethridge, 1965 **25.00**



In Service of Alaska, 5 year and 10 year
pins. The 10 year is sterling, the 5 year is
unmarked. Flag is gold colored. **15.00**



Ladd Air Force Base, (now Ft. Wainwright), 449th Airmen's Club, \$5 Chit book. **5.00**

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